Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications

Asthma is an inflammatory disease of the respiratory tract. Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that may involve systems of the entire body. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires immediate medical treatment and follow-up care by an allergist/immunologist.

It is the policy of the board of directors that students with asthma or anaphylaxis are afforded the opportunity to self-administer prescribed medications. The student’s parent or guardian will submit a written request and other documentation required by the school. The student’s prescribing health care provider must provide a written treatment plan.

The student must demonstrate to the school’s professional registered nurse that the student is competent to possess and self-administer prescribed medications during school and at school sponsored events.

The superintendent will establish procedures that implement this policy and follow emergency rescue procedures outlined in the most recent edition of AMES: Asthma Management in Educational Settings, in cases of suspected asthma and the emergency rescue procedures outlined in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction’s Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis (2009) in cases of suspected anaphylaxis.

Cross References:
- Policy 3416 Medication at School
- Policy 2161 Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
- Policy 2162 Education of Students with Disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitative Act of 1973
- Policy 3420 Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Legal References:
- 42 U.S.C. 280 Public Health Service Act
- 42 U.S.C. 12212 Section 512 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- 34 CFR Part 104 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- RCW 28A.210.370 Students with Asthma
- RCW 28A.210.380 Anaphylaxis-Policy guidelines-Procedures-Reports

Management Resources:
- Policy News, August, 2012 Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
- Policy News, February 2009 Anaphylaxis Prevention Policy Required Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis
- OSPI, March 2009

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